Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA), RSC Chairman Rep. Cynthia Lummis (R-WY), RSC Repeal Task Force Chairman

Repeal the Election Assistance Commission and Presidential Election Campaign Fund

January 23, 2013

On January 15, 2013, Rep. Gregg Harper (R-MS), along with original cosponsors Rep. Todd Rokita (R-IN), Rep. Candice Miller (R-MI) and Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK), introduced **H.R. 260, legislation to terminate the Election Assistance Commission and Presidential Election Campaign Fund.** Repealing these outdated and ineffective programs will save taxpayers nearly \$500 million and return \$199 million to the Treasury for deficit reduction.

Originally authorized for a three-year period, the **Election Assistance Commission (EAC)** was created by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) to assist states in upgrading voting systems. Five years later American taxpayers are still footing the bill due to continued funding through the appropriations process. The National Association of Secretaries of State has supported ending the EAC. Eliminating the EAC has previously been a RSC priority.

Largely unchanged since its creation during the 1970s, the **Presidential Election Campaign Fund (PECF)** allows individual taxpayers to designate contributions on individual income tax returns. These funds are used to publicly finance presidential candidates primary and general election campaigns and party convention expenses. The RSC has previously highlighted efforts to repeal this program and included it as a separate provision of the Spending Reduction Act.

Last Congress, similar legislation was introduced and passed by the House (H.R. 3463 and H.R. 359 in the 112th Congress).

Please contact Scot Maldaney in Rep. Gregg Harper's office at <u>Scot.Maldaney@mail.house.gov</u> to cosponsor.

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